



State of Utah

School and Institutional
TRUST LANDS ADMINISTRATION

Michael O. Leavitt
Governor

David T. Terry
Director

675 East 500 South, Suite 500
Salt Lake City, Utah 84102-2818
801-538-5100
801-355-0922 (Fax)

5/037/096

October 7, 1997

Ridgepointe Mining Company
100 NW 2nd Street
Suite 312
Evansville, IN 47708

Jeffery T. Wilson, President

Re: Notice of Intent to Commence Mining Operations, Metalliferous Minerals Lease ML-47316
Section 36, T. 29.5 S., R. 22 E. San Juan County, Utah

Dear Lessee:

On September 27, 1997, the School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration approved the assignment of the above referenced Metalliferous Minerals lease from Bob Bolles to Ridgepointe Mining Company. The Trust Lands Administration has noted the change in your planed mining activity from operations on ML-47323 to ML-47316 as referenced above. On September 24, 1997, the Trust Lands Administration approved acceptance of bond; certificate of deposit No. 2616190 as surety for small mining activity as it applies to mining operations on lease ML-47316. The small mine operation notice of intent to commence mining for Ridgepointe Mining Company's Duke Project is now considered complete and approval to commence with the planed mining activity is hereby granted.

The Division of State History has reviewed the cultural resource inventory report conducted on the project mine site and have determined that no historic properties will be impacted by the project. Compliance with the State of Utah Antiquities Act forbids disturbance of archeological, historical, or paleontological remains. Should archeological, historical, or paleontological remains be encountered during your operations you are required to immediately suspend all operations and immediately inform the Trust Lands Administration and the Division of State History of the discovery of such remains.

Trust Lands Administration approval to commence exploration or mining does not alleviate the necessity to comply with the requirements of the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining. You must contact them and comply with their requirements before commencing with any exploration or development. The address of the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining is 1594 West North Temple, Suite # 1210, P. O. Box 145801, Salt Lake City, Utah 84114.

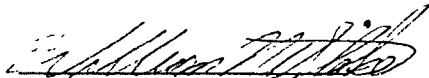
Ridgepointe Mining Co.

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Thank you for your cooperation. When in the area a member of the Trust Lands Administrations staff will examine the site.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "William M. Stokes", written over a horizontal line.

William M. Stokes

Minerals Resource Specialist

cc: Anthony A. Gallegos

James W. Goddard